



3 1761 09428547 5



FALL IN!

**AN APPEAL TO THE
YOUTH OF BRITAIN**

.. BY ..

J. Aubrey Rees

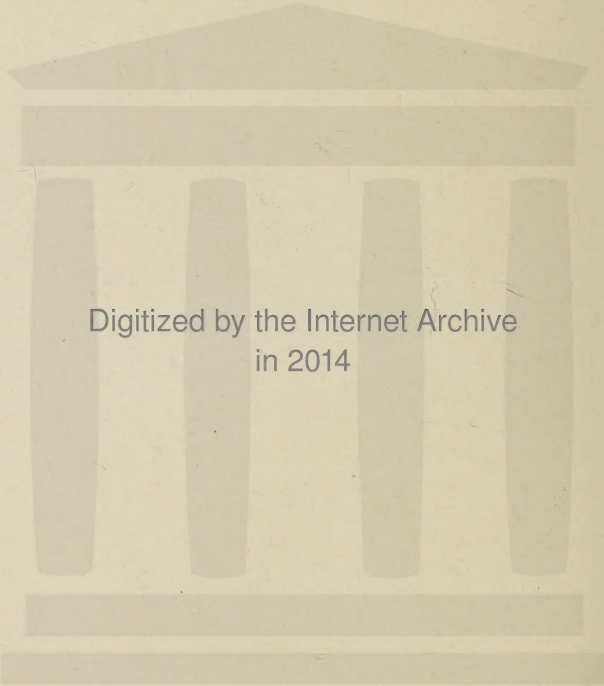
— CONTRIBUTIONS BY: —

**F. D. ACLAND, M.P.,
HAROLD BEGBIE,
A. C. BENSON,
JOHN GALSWORTHY,
R. E. VERNÈDE.**

Published by "THE DAILY CHRONICLE,"
FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.

PRICE ONE PENNY





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2014

FALL IN!

An Appeal to the Youth of Britain.

BY

J. AUBREY REES

(Secretary, National League of Young Liberals).

CONTRIBUTIONS BY

F. D. ACLAND, M P.,

HAROLD BEGBIE,

A. C. BENSON,

JOHN GALSWORTHY,

R. E. VERNÈDE.

136034
24 | 3 | 15

PUBLISHED BY

"THE DAILY CHRONICLE,"

Fleet Street, London, E.C.

MCMXIV.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Foreword. The Right Hon. Lewis Harcourt	3
Photograph. The Right Hon Earl Kitchener, Minister for War	4
Message from Lord Kitchener	5
Poem: "Fall In!" Harold Begbie	6
An Appeal to the Youth of Britain. J. Aubrey Rees	7
The French Point of View	9
The Causes of the War. F. D. Acland, M.P., Under- Secretary for Foreign Affairs	10
For Democracy. John Galsworthy	13
For the Best of Reasons. A. C. Benson	15
Britain and the War. The Prime Minister's Speech	18
Poem: "The Call." R. E. Vernède	25
Illustration: "Answering the Call"	26
What we are Fighting For	27
The Great Decision. Terms of Service	28
Principal London Recruiting Stations	31
A Final Word	32

**The Secretary of State for the Colonies,
The Rt. Hon. LEWIS HARCOURT, M.P.,
writes as follows:—**

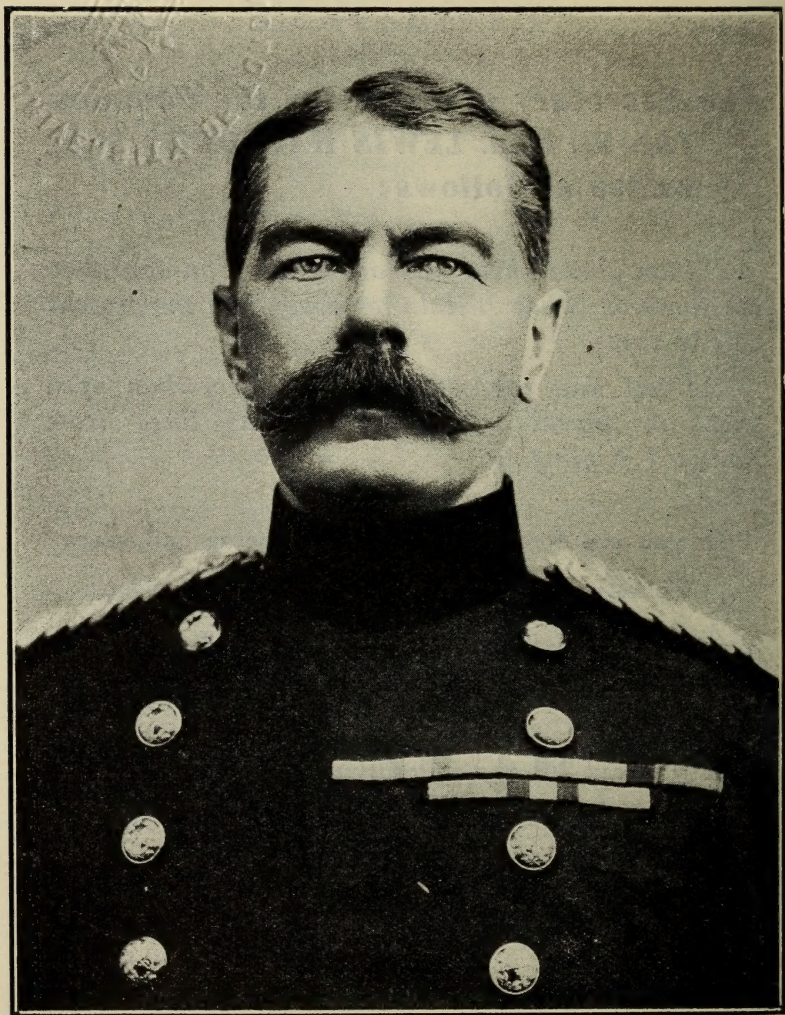
“I am glad to hear you are making an appeal to the youth of Great Britain to respond to the present call to arms.

“I feel that you could not do better than open such an appeal with the following lines from Rudyard Kipling:—

*“If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the will which says to them: ‘Hold on!’*

*“If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds’ worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that’s in it,
And—which is more—you’ll be a Man, my son!”*

THE MAN AND THE HOUR.



[Photo by Bassano.]

The Right Hon. Earl KITCHENER, G.C.I.E.,
G.C.S.I., etc., War Minister.

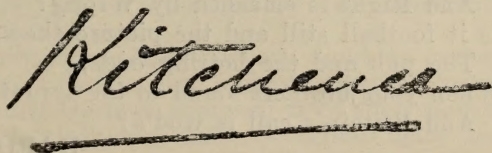
Lord Kitchener's Message.

YOUNG MEN, YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOU!

More men are urgently required for the Regular Army. They are required **NOW**. It is of no use sending untrained men into the field. If you want to help your country at this critical moment you must come forward **NOW**, and be trained as a soldier.

You will not be sent to the front till you are trained and fit to take the field against the enemy. As soon as you are trained you will be given your chance to show the stuff that is in you.

You are not asked to join the Army in the ordinary way, which involves service in peace time, though you will be welcome if you do so. You are only asked to serve for the War. As soon as the War is over, every facility will be given you to secure your discharge and get back to your ordinary work.



Kitchener

“Fall In!”

What will you lack, sonny, what will you lack,
When the girls line up the street,
Shouting their love to the lads come back
From the foe they rushed to beat?
Will you send a strangled cheer to the sky
And grin till your cheeks are red?
But what will you lack when your mate goes by
With a girl who cuts you dead.

Where will you look, sonny, where will you look
When your children yet to be,
Clamour to learn of the part you took
In the war that kept men free?
Will you say it was naught to you if France
Stood up to her foe or bunked?
But where will you look when they give the glance
That tells you they know you funkcd?

How will you fare, sonny, how will you fare
In the far-off winter night,
When you sit by the fire in an old man's chair
And your neighbours talk of the fight?
Will you slink away, as it were from a blow,
Your old head shamed and bent?
Or say—I was not with the first to go,
But I went, thank God, I went?

Why do they call, sonny, why do they call
For men who are brave and strong?
Is it naught to you if your country fall,
And Right is smashed by Wrong?
Is it football still and the picture show,
The pub and the betting odds,
When your brothers stand to the tyrant's blow,
And Britain's call is God's?

HAROLD BEGBIE.

An Appeal to the Youth of Britain.

The poet must have been thinking of such a time as this, when eternal forces of good and evil are battling for supremacy, to have written of those who

“Count the life of battle good,
And dear the land that gave you birth,
And dearer yet the brotherhood
That binds the brave of all the earth.”

Youth has surely never had a worthier cause to fight for, nor a prouder hour than the present.

We have discussed for years the possibility of a great European War; some have foreseen the time when such a conflict would arise, but who imagined that it would wage round such an issue, that Britain would be offered the alternative of keeping or breaking her pledged word to a small nation, and that this “infamous proposal” by Prussia, and prompt rejection of it by Britain, were to symbolise on one side the base ambitions of militarism built on lust for power, and on the other the spiritual force that preserves honour among nations?

We see in Prussia a people over whom a military despotism is supreme, whose civil liberties are subordinate thereto, men and women living their lives, adapting their surroundings, and “dressing” their culture to the ambitions of the war lords. On our side a free people, with free institutions, a free Parliament, a free Press, whose sons and daughters are missionaries of freedom and good government in all quarters of the globe, ever ready to aid smaller nations and weaker principalities, guarding their independence and preserving their national ideals.

Germany, a nation boasting of its mental culture and scientific attainments, yet chained to the chariot of the God of War; Britain, a nation priding itself upon its inheritance as a free Commonwealth of Nations, created by generations of heroes who battled for individual liberty and national honour.

This war of contending armies whose numbers exceed any ever seen on a battlefield, and of spiritual forces which revolt against German cynicism is of such significance that every intelligent man is called upon not

merely to take sides, but to participate actively, in some form or other, in the contest.

Read the story of Belgium—of its gallant resistance to a great military power “hacking its way through” the territory of this smaller nation, remorselessly wiping out its villages, destroying its humble homes, driving forth its old men and women and children from hallowed places without shame and without mercy.

Read the story of Louvain, learn how the world has been deprived for ever of its splendid architectural monuments, of its ancient church, of priceless manuscripts and works of art; imagine how it would tug at your heart strings to learn that your city with its familiar buildings, its churches, its life-long associations had been ruthlessly wiped out by these modern Huns.

Read the story of Antwerp; of bombs dropped upon defenceless citizens; of innocent men and women killed without warning; of this crime against the human conscience.

Read the story of the Kaiser, the man who, lusting for dominion and wading through carnage, calls upon God to bless such hellish work.

Reading these things, one wonders what our years of culture, of freedom, of brotherhood, of soul expansion mean to the human race if they are all to be held up by a royal highwayman and their future progress challenged to satisfy his lust of conquest.

Of what avail the steady emancipation of labour if labour is again to be thrown back into the pit?

Of what avail our free Dominions beyond the seas if they are to be brought under the iron heel of Prussia?

Civilisation itself cries out against the present barbarities, and all over the world men and women whose hearts are attuned to the noble and beautiful in life contemplate with horror the outrages which mark the path of the German armies.

Were Prussia militarism to prove victorious, which God forbid, it would mean that we should cease to be free men, and should merely be so many human pawns moved at will by an arrogant over-lord; it would mean that all small nations, all free dominions would once again be thrown into the melting-pot to emerge as vassal states of Prussia.

We are face to face with as grave a peril as ever confronted a free people. We are engaged in a momentous

conflict between Democracy, with its ideals of personal freedom and political liberty, and militarism, based on the anti-Christian philosophy of Nietzsche. The need for action, determined and effective, is urgent. Our fathers fought the fight of freedom, and the sons are now called upon to establish and maintain their work.

Down the ages the men who made Britain great and free as in one great chorus cry out to you, "Fall in."

You are living in security through the watchfulness and valour of our sailor lads, and the courage and endurance of our soldiers. "Fall in."

You are enjoying educational facilities, social rights, economic conditions, political privileges unsurpassed in any country in the world. Guard them from this German menace. "Fall in."

You young men of Britain, this is your Day; to you it is given to play such a game as has never been played before, a game in which the stakes are not merely human homes and human lives, but all the precious things that have gone to make this Empire and our Imperial Race sweet and dear to each of you.

There is your work; stand shoulder to shoulder with all those brave and noble men who are rallying to the call of King and Motherland. Join them, and through self-denial learn self victory. Find in this struggle a test for your manhood and an opportunity for service such as rarely falls to the lot of youth.

Quit you like men, Be strong!

J. AUBREY REES.

THE FRENCH POINT OF VIEW.

"Endure and fight! Such must be the motto of the allied British, Russian, Belgian, and French armies. . . . We shall gain the final victory, we shall gain it by unflagging will, endurance and tenacity. A nation which does not wish to perish, and which in order to live does not flinch either from suffering or sacrifice, is sure of victory."—President Poincaré, September 3rd.

"We are fighting for the dignity of humanity. We are fighting for the right of civilisation to continue to exist. We are fighting so that nations may continue to live in Europe without being under the heel of another nation. It is a great cause; it is worth great sacrifices."—M. Clemenceau.

The Causes of the War.

By Mr. F. D. ACLAND, M.P.

(Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs).

“What are the causes of the War?”

To combine brevity and truth in the answer to so large a question is a difficult task, particularly at a time of very high pressure. But it may be possible to shed some little light on it by starting at the beginning and showing how the war flame spread.

First Austria attacked Serbia. This attack was a piece of military opportunism arising out of a guilty conscience. Military opportunism, because Serbia, having doubled her territory and population as a result of the Balkan wars, might have become too strong to be brought under Austrian subjection if she had been allowed time fully to recover from the effects of these wars. A guilty conscience because Austria having quietly absorbed two Serb States, Bosnia and Herzegovina, six years ago knew that Serbia might try to take the stolen provinces from her if she became strong enough to do so. Austria's ultimatum to Serbia showed that Austria had decided that the time had come when Serbia must be reduced to entire dependence on Austria's will. Even when Serbia in her humble reply appealed to arbitration at the Hague, this was made a cause of offence!

So Russia took action. Why?

Because Russia had been largely responsible for setting up Serbia as an independent country; because the Servians are akin to the Russians in race and religion; because Russia had, as of right, taken part with Austria in settling the new boundaries of Serbia after the Balkan war; and because Austria would not either propose or agree to any limitation of her military action against Serbia.

Austria and Russia are rather like two big boys in a school who are both interested in a smaller boy. The smaller boy is inclined to be cheeky to one of the big boys, who wants to give him a licking. The other big boy says, “I don't mind your giving him a licking, but

if you're going to take the skin off his back, collar all his pocket-money and make him your fag, you must expect me to take my coat off." When it became clear that Germany was not bringing effective pressure to bear on Austria to set bounds to her action against Servia, Russia took her coat off, i.e., she mobilised, and I do not see that she can be blamed.

Then Germany came in. She not only mobilised, she attacked. It may be asked why Germany was not content with mobilising as a reply to the Russian mobilisation, and then relying on our good offices, as she could safely have done, to prevent Russia taking any offensive action against her? The German reply would be simple. It would be: Russia and France are going to attack us. Russia mobilises slowly, France mobilises quickly, Germany mobilises quicker still. We think we can smash France before Russia is ready, but the moment Russia mobilises we must begin the smashing at once or Russia would gain time for her slow mobilisation processes.

This might justify Germany's action if she could prove that France and Russia desired to attack her. Germany has not proved this. For the real explanation of Germany's action we must look a little deeper. Germany had recently spent an extra £50,000,000 on her army and had obtained the value of it in extra efficiency. France was spending more money on her army also, but had not obtained the full value of her new policy. Russia was also suspected to be about to improve her army chiefly by quickening-up mobilisation and by building railways on the German frontier as Germany had done on the French and Belgian frontiers.

The German justification for war, therefore, if justification there be, was simply this: If we do not smash France and Russia now we may not be able to smash them later.

Is this a justification or not? There is an exact parallel in the attitude of a certain section of opinion here towards Germany in recent years. "With or without reason, we must smash the German fleet, or it may become too strong." Persons who used that argument in the past cannot blame Germany for the attack upon France now.

We who hold that it would have been a most hideous

piece of international immorality to destroy the German fleet without cause other than its increasing size are justified in holding the same view about Germany's unjustified attack upon France. The action of Germany was that of a military despot, not of a civilised State.

Lastly as to England. Our participation in the war might have been justified simply by the necessity of preventing acts of military despotism. We have shown Germany and the world quite clearly that we would not support aggressive action by France and Russia against Germany, and we might have gone to war to protect France and Russia from aggressive action by Germany. But we did not have to decide that question, for by the attack on Belgium it became secondary. We are fighting now for the sanctity of treaty rights, and that is a great cause. For the sanctity of treaty rights is a real test of the progress of civilisation as compared to a state of force and lawlessness. It is the foundation of all confidence between nations.

And there is something more to be said. A treaty guaranteeing a country's neutrality should be more sacred than any other treaty, for a neutral country between two powerful neighbours is to the extent of its power and size a guarantee of peace between those neighbours.

Our guarantee of Belgian neutrality is not some old agreement made under conditions wholly differing from those of the present day, and which, therefore, might conceivably have been ignored or evaded. It is a deliberate and permanent effort to make war more difficult between Germany and France.

A neutral country between great powers is like a large pillow placed on the nursery floor between two small children. It makes their quarrelling more difficult, and as long as neither strikes at the other across it there may be peace in the nursery. Our interest is peace, so we must be permanently interested in preventing countries striking at one another across neutralised states, as I believe we always shall be. And again our guarantee of Belgian neutrality, though made years ago, is vital still, for it is essential for the maintenance of our sea power that the mouths of the great rivers opposite to the Thames should not fall under the control of a great Power.

To sum up. Austria's war against Servia was a war

of military opportunism to preserve her own aggression in the past, and to facilitate further aggression in the future.

Russia's action in mobilising to protect Serbia was inevitable in view of Austria's action against Serbia.

Germany's smash at France was military opportunism for fear that France and Russia should become too strong to be smashable.

Our action is aimed at repressing a military domination of Europe. It is aimed at preserving the sanctity of treaties. It is aimed at protecting small neutral states as being the best means for keeping the great countries at peace.

I think, therefore, that our consciences in this matter should be clear.

For Democracy.

If France and Belgium founder in this struggle, let no Liberal or Socialist, let no working man imagine for one moment that Democracy will have the faintest chance in Europe during the remainder of his working life. If France and Belgium founder, and the ship of England is still floating when Peace comes, the life on board that ship will no longer be democratic. Autocracy and Militarism will so rule Europe that in self-defence our national life will assuredly become Militarist, with all the consequences thereof. But since we have honourably engaged ourselves not to lay down arms till France does, we must assume that Democracy will either win outright or founder for good and all.

In order to win outright we shall have to put our best foot forward. Every piece of evidence the war has yielded so far has been crystal clear proof that civilisation has gone backward under Militarist Autocracy. Discounting all probable exaggeration, the Germans have already in this war established a really striking fame for barbarity and tricks. The system under which they live would seem to have rotted in them all sense of chivalry. This is natural. Man cannot be brought up in strict reverence for bulk and force, for blood and iron, without deterioration of his soul-fibre. Their remarkable and avowed determination to win by foul means, if they cannot by fair, puts them out of court, before that

tribunal of Justice, Honour, Freedom, ever reigning invisible over the affairs of men.

This war then is the supreme fight between the principles and teaching inherent in Democracy and those inherent in Militarist Autocracy; the supreme fight of Freedom against Tyranny. There must be hundreds of thousands of humane and decent men serving in the German ranks, yet we have seen their humanity crushed, their decency stunned. They fight under an accursed system. They fight with the sword of Force pressed to their backs. They are the slaves of that parvenu and ugly god—Success at any price. A generation and a half of iron Militarism has transformed Germany into something that we who honoured and respected Germany can hardly recognise.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating.

If any of us were doubtful at the outset which system, Militarist Autocracy or Democracy was the real champion of "culture" in nations, there can be no shadow of doubt now. Germany may be a very "cultured" (?), a very methodical, well-organised country, but the temper of its people under stress (and that is the real test of civilisation) has failed to show any of the fruits of true culture.

No! Democracy has got to win! It will not be long in winning, if we at once make a really great and resolute effort. Each hundred thousand fresh recruits will take a month off the length of this war, and a weight off the souls of the hundred thousand themselves serving the cause of Democracy, Humanity, of Honour, and of England.

JOHN GALSWORTHY.

"It is our system of civilisation and government against theirs. It is our life or theirs. We are conscious of the greatness of the times. We recognise the consequence and proportion of events. We feel that, however inadequate we may be, however unexpected the ordeal may be, we are under the eye of history, and the issue being joined, England must go forward to the very end."—Mr. Winston Churchill, August 29th.

For the Best of Reasons.

I write these pages from my College at Cambridge. So far as I can make out, though it is not easy to get the exact figures, some five-sixths of our undergraduates, if not more, have volunteered for service in some corps or other. Some of them have been rejected for eyesight and other defects, but most of these have found some sort of civil or military duty to do of an administrative kind. The response, indeed, to the call to arms has been very remarkable. I have talked with a good many of our men about it, and I have been interested to see how many motives come in. Some regard it all as a splendid adventure, and have strained every nerve to get to the front; with some, perhaps, it has been more a sense of comradeship, and they have desired to do what their chosen friends are doing; with some it has been a restless excitement and an inability to go on with ordinary occupations; some, on the other hand, who are naturally among the least warlike and adventurous, have surprised me by the tenacity with which they have persisted in claiming a place; they do not look forward to training or even to campaigning, but they have a feeling that they have a right and a duty to be there. As Alan Breck says in "Kidnapped," "to be feared of a thing and yet to do it is what makes the prettiest kind of man!" Indeed, there are many occasions in this world on which it is a relief to take a decisive step; it is far easier and indeed happier to put oneself under discipline and obedience, and to take what comes, than to have to make up one's mind fifty times a day. To have no further choice is often a great help; and then, too, it is astonishing how much simpler things turn out to be when a choice is once taken; difficulties vanish, obstacles turn out not to be obstacles at all, people prove to be kindlier, more friendly, more pleasant than could have been expected. Indeed, I have known many men who were a little afraid of experience beforehand; I have never known any that found it as hard as they anticipated or would have parted with the possession of it, when once gained, for any price whatever.

Of course, we all love our familiar life, the places, the people we are used to, the games, amusements, friendships and interests. I do not find that many of my

younger friends want to remain ultimately in the army; they want to come back to the life, whatever it is, that awaits them. I am not, of course, speaking of people who are planning merely to be lazy and idle, and to amuse themselves at any cost; I am speaking of the energetic, simple-minded, honest, cheerful, young Englishman, who prefers peace, like most of his Anglo-Saxon brethren, though not afraid of work, likes to be in good training, enjoys wholesome amusement and companionship and home life. There is nothing whatever to be ashamed of in such a programme; indeed, it is the English programme, and we English have felt so secure for so long that we have perhaps got a habit of peace which is hard to break through, especially when we have put all compulsion of service aside.

But now that the door of fate is swinging open, and these huge events are happening; when

“The giant forms of Empires, on their way
To ruin,”

stride over the stage, and when England must frankly take a side and a part, both out of honour and loyalty, and also to defeat perhaps the most deliberate attempt ever made to take away the key of liberty and to keep it in a German pocket; then it is surely a natural and a fine ambition to have a hand in this great matter, to help to shoulder the burden, to wave an English defiance in the face of the foe.

It means supreme risk, it means fatigue, it means, perhaps, trouble and suffering; but it also means a sense of high conscience and courage and comradeship. It is the men who stride to the front, for whatever reason, who stand for the inner and stronger spirit of the nation. The men who go about hoping not to catch the eye, or who say mildly what they think of doing in certain eventualities—there is a cleavage between them and the others which is deeper than at first appears. Who would not wish to be on the side of those who act? Who, looking back to these times, will ever reflect with any comfort that he might have joined the Army, but preferred to stay at home? What satisfactory disguise can a man put upon the fact that if he stands aside he has practically said that he prefers to look on, and that if England is beaten, he cannot help it, because he cannot risk life and ease in any case?

The need is after all a simple one enough. It is just this. The German army is a vast and efficient affair; it has plenty of go in it yet; and even if it is slowly squeezed out of France, and has to hurry to the East to meet the Russians, it will be still defending its own very strongly fortified soil; and the more men we put into the field, the sooner must the submission come.

And nothing short of submission will do; it is not that we want to inflict a mere vindictive humiliation, though there is a retribution to be exacted. It is simply that the German theory of Culture or the Sword is a piece of infamous bullying, no less; and our answer is that we are going to live according to our own principles and instincts; that we are not going to have German culture at any price or under any name; and lastly that all those who take the sword shall perish by the sword.

A. C. BENSON.

THE BRITISH POINT OF VIEW.

“The issue was one which no great and self-respecting nation, certainly none bred and nurtured like ourselves in this ancient home of liberty, could, without undying shame, have declined.”—The Prime Minister, August 27th.

“I think this country has not yet fully realised that this is, for us as much as for Belgium, a struggle of life and death, and that we must without haste, but without rest, employ to the utmost all our resources to bring it to a successful end.”—Mr. Bonar Law, August 27th.

“I believe, when the country realises what is at stake, what the real issues are, the magnitude of the impending dangers in the West of Europe . . . then I believe we shall be supported throughout, not only by the House of Commons, but by the determination, and the resolution, the courage, and the endurance of the whole country.”—Sir Edward Grey, August 4th.

Britain and the War.

The Prime Minister's Great Oration.

"WE WANT MORE MEN!"

A national campaign was opened by the Prime Minister at the Guildhall, London, on September 4th, with a masterly oration which visibly stirred the vast assembly of Londoners who had gathered within the historic building.

Mr. Asquith, in this thrilling call to arms, referred in opening to the meeting he had the honour of addressing in that hall three and a-half years ago to celebrate and approve the joint declaration of the United States and Great Britain in favour of arbitration in the settlement of any future differences between the two countries. "We were very confident three years ago in the rightness of our position when we welcomed the new securities for peace. We are equally confident in it to-day when, reluctantly and against our will, but with clear judgment and a clean conscience, we find ourselves involved with the whole strength of this Empire in the bloody arbitrament between might and right.

"The issue has passed out of the domain of argument into another field. But let me ask you, and through you the world outside, what would have been our condition as a nation to-day if, through timidity, or through a perverted calculation of self-interest, or through a paralysis of the sense of honour and duty, we had been base enough to be false to our word and faithless to our friends? (Cheers.) Our eyes would have been turned at this moment with those of the whole civilised world to Belgium, a small State which has lived for more than 70 years under a several and collective guarantee, to which we, in common with Prussia and Austria, were parties, and we should have seen, at the instance and by the action of two of those guaranteeing Powers, her

neutrality violated, her independence strangled, her territory made use of as affording the easiest and most convenient road to a war of unprovoked aggression against France.

“We, the British people, should at this moment have been standing by, with folded arms, and with such countenance as we could command, while this small and unprotected State, in defence of her vital liberties, made a heroic stand against overweening and overwhelming forces.

“We should have been admiring as detached spectators the siege of Liège, the steady and manful resistance of the small army, the occupation of her capital, with its splendid traditions and memories, the gradual forcing back of the patriotic defenders of their native land to the ramparts of Antwerp, countless outrages suffered by them, buccaneering levies exacted from the unoffending civil population, and, finally, the greatest crime committed against civilisation and culture since the Thirty Years War, the sack of Louvain, with its buildings, its pictures, its unique library, its unrivalled associations, the shameless holocaust of irreparable treasures, lit up by blind barbarian vengeance.

“What account could we, the Government and the people of this country, have been able to render to the tribunal of our national conscience and sense of honour, if, in defiance of our plighted and solemn obligations, we had endured, and had not done our best to prevent, yes, to avenge these intolerable wrongs?

“For my part, I say that sooner than be a silent witness, which means in effect a willing accomplice, to this tragic triumph of force over law, and of brutality over freedom, I would see this country of ours blotted out of the pages of history.

GERMAN AMBITIONS.

“That is only a phase, a lurid and illuminating one, in the contest into which we have been called by the mandate of duty and of honour to bear our part. The cynical violation of the neutrality of Belgium was not the whole, but a step, a first step, in a deliberate policy

of which, if not the immediate, the ultimate and not far distant aim was to crush the independence and the autonomy of the free States of Europe. First Belgium, then Holland and Switzerland, countries like our own, imbued and sustained with the spirit of liberty, were, one after another, to be bent to the yoke of these ambitions, which were fed and fostered by a body of new doctrines, a new philosophy, preached by professors and learned men.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

“The free and full self-development of these small States, of ourselves, of our great and growing Dominions over the Seas, of our kinsmen across the Atlantic, is the well-spring of national existence. That free self-development is the one capital offence in the code of those who have made force their supreme Divinity, and upon its altars they are prepared to sacrifice both the gathered fruits and the potential charms of the unfettered human spirit.

“I use this language advisedly. This is not merely a material, it is also a spiritual conflict. Upon its issue everything that contains the promise of hope, that leads to emancipation and a fuller liberty for the millions who make up the mass of mankind, will be found sooner or later to depend.”

The Prime Minister then referred to the happy relations that had been established between Great Britain and the two powers, France and Russia, during the past ten years, to the efforts made to preserve peace among the European Powers by Sir Edward Grey. “One Power, and one Power only,” was responsible for the present conflict, “and that Power is Germany.”

“We are persevering to the end,” continued Mr. Asquith, “and no one who has not been confronted as we were with the responsibility, which unless you had been face to face with it you could not possibly measure, the responsibility of determining the issues of peace and war—no one who has not been in that position can realise the strength, energy and persistence with which we laboured for peace.

THE EFFORTS FOR PEACE.

“We persevered by every expedient that diplomacy could suggest, straining almost to the breaking point our most cherished friendships and obligations, even to the last, making effort upon effort, and hoping against hope.

“Then, and only then, when we were at last compelled to realise that the choice lay between honour and dishonour, between treachery and good faith—when we at last reached the dividing line which makes or mars a nation worthy of the name, it was then only that we declared for war.

“Is there anyone in this hall, or in this United Kingdom, or in the vast Empire of which we here stand in the capital and centre, who blames us or repents our decision? (Loud cries of ‘No.’) If not, as I believe there is not, we must steel ourselves to the task, and, in the spirit which animated our forefathers in their struggle against the dominion of Napoleon, we must, and we shall, persevere to the end.

OUR ALLIES.

“It would be a criminal mistake to under-estimate either the magnitude, the fighting quality, or the staying power of the forces which are arrayed against us; but it would be equally foolish and equally indefensible to belittle our own resources, whether for resistance or for attack.

“Belgium has shown us by memorable and glorious example what can be done by a relatively small State when its citizens are animated and fired by the spirit of patriotism.

“In France and Russia we have as allies two of the greatest Powers in the world, engaged with us in a common cause, who do not mean to separate themselves from us any more than we mean to separate ourselves from them. (Cheers.) We have upon the sea the strongest and most magnificent fleet the world has ever seen. The Expeditionary Force which left our shores less than a month ago has never been surpassed, as its

glorious achievements in the field have already made clear, not only in material equipment, but in the physical and moral quality of its constituent parts."

Mr. Asquith then paid a well-deserved tribute to the British Navy, pointing out that "Its superiority is equally marked in every department and every sphere of its activity."

"In regard to the Army, there is a call for a new, a continuous, a determined, and a united effort. For, as the war goes on, we shall have not merely to replace the wastage caused by casualties, not merely to maintain our military power at its original level, but we must, if we are to play a world part, enlarge its scale, increase its numbers, and multiply many times its effectiveness as a fighting instrument. The object of the appeal which I have made to you, my Lord Mayor, and to the other chief magistrates of our capital cities, is to impress upon them the imperious urgency of this supreme duty.

RALLY OF THE DOMINIONS.

"Our self-governing Dominions throughout the Empire, without any solicitation on our part, demonstrated with a spontaneousness and unanimity unparalleled in history their determination to affirm their brotherhood with us, and to make our cause their own.

"From Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and from Newfoundland the children of the Empire assert, not as an obligation, but as a privilege, their right and their willingness to contribute money, material, and, what is better than all, the strength and sinews, the fortunes, and lives of their best manhood. India, too, with not less alacrity, has claimed her share in the common task.

"Every class and creed, British and native, princes and people, Hindoos and Mohammedans, vie with one another in a noble and emulous rivalry.

"Two divisions of their magnificent army are already on their way. (Cheers.) We welcome with appreciation and affection their proffered aid, and, in an Empire

which knows no distinction of race or class, where all alike, as subjects of the King-Emperor, are joint and equal custodians of our common interest and fortunes, we here hail with profound and heartfelt gratitude their association side by side and shoulder to shoulder with our home and Dominion troops, under the flag which is a symbol to all of a unity that the world in arms cannot dissever or dissolve.

“With these inspiring appeals and examples from our fellow-subjects all over the world, what are we doing, and what ought we to do at home? Mobilisation was ordered on August 4th. Immediately afterwards Lord Kitchener issued his call for 100,000 recruits for the Regular Army, which has been followed by a second call for another 100,000. The response up to to-day gives us between 250,000 and 300,000 men, and I am glad to say that London has done its share. The total number of Londoners accepted is not fewer than 42,000.”

Having paid a tribute to the Territorials, Mr. Asquith continued: “We want more men, men of the best fighting quality, and if for the moment the number who offer and are accepted should prove to be in excess of those who can at once be adequately trained and equipped, don’t let them doubt that appropriate provision will be made for incorporation of all willing and able men in the fighting forces of the King.”

The progress of the war was next touched upon, Mr. Asquith stating that, “In whatever direction we look, there is abundant ground for pride and for comfort.”

“Meanwhile let us go, each one of us, to his or her appropriate part in the great common task.

“Never had a people more or richer sources of encouragement and inspiration. Let us realise, first of all, that we are fighting as a United Empire, in a cause worthy of the highest traditions of our race. Let us keep in mind the patient and indomitable seamen who never relax for a moment, night or day, their stern vigil on the lonely sea.

“Let us keep in mind our gallant troops, who to-day, after a fortnight’s continuous fighting under conditions which would try the mettle of the best army that ever

took the field, maintain not only an undefeated, but an unbroken front. Finally, let us recall the memories of the great men and the great deeds of the past, commemorated some of them in the monuments which we see around us on these walls, not forgetting the dying message of the younger Pitt—his last public utterance made at a table of your predecessor, my Lord Mayor, in this very hall, ‘England has saved herself by her exertions and will, as I trust, save Europe by her example.’

“The England of those days gave a noble answer to his appeal, and did not sheathe the sword until after nearly 20 years of fighting. The freedom of Europe was secured; let us go and do likewise.”

GERMAN BRAVADO.

“We have taken the field against Russia and France, but at bottom it is England we are fighting everywhere. We must prove to Russia the superiority of our culture and of our military might. We must force France on to her knees until she chokes. It is not yet time to offer terms. But between Russia and Germany there is no insoluble problem. France, too, fights chiefly for honour’s sake. It is from England we must wring the uttermost price for this gigantic struggle, however dearly others may have to pay for the help they have given her.”—From the “Hamburger Nachrichten,” August 25th.

The Call.

Lad with the merry smile and the eyes
 Quick as a hawk's and clear as the day,
 You, who have counted the game, the prize,
 Here is the game of games to play.
 Never a goal—the Captains say—
 Matches the one that's needed now;
 Put the old blazer and cap away,
 England's colours await your brow.

Man; with the square-set jaws and chin,
 Always, it seems, you have moved to your end
 Sure of yourself, intent to win
 Fame and wealth and the power to bend—
 All that you've made you're called to spend,
 All that you've sought you're asked to miss—
 What's ambition compared with this
 That a man lay down his life for his friend?

Dreamer, oft in your glancing mind,
 Brave with drinking the faerie brew,
 You have smitten the ogres blind,
 When the fair Princess cried out to you.
 Dreamer, what if your dreams are true?
 Yonder's a bayonet, magical, since
 Him whom it strikes, the blade sinks through—
 Take it and strike for England, Prince!

Lover of ease, you've lolled and forgot
 All the things that you meant to right;
 Life has been soft for you, has it not?
 What offer does England make to-night?
 This—to toil and to march and to fight
 As never you've dreamed since your life began;
 This—to carry the steel-swept height,
 This—to know that you've played the man!

Brothers, brothers, the time is short,
 Nor soon again shall it so betide,
 That a man may pass from the common sort
 Sudden, and stand by the heroes' side.
 Are there some that being named yet bide?
 Hark once more to the clarion call,
 Sounded by him who deathless died—
 "This day England expects you all."

R. E. VERNEDE.

(Reprinted by kind permission of the Author.)

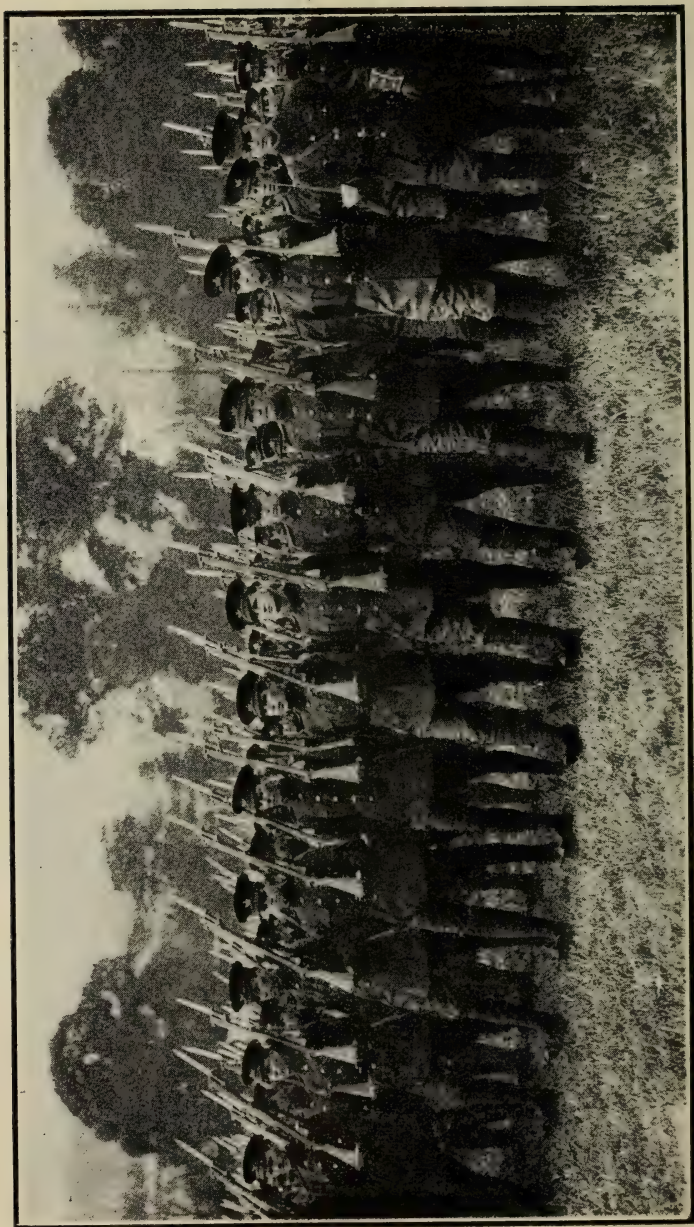


Photo by Central News.

ANSWERING THE CALL.

What We are Fighting For.

“If I am asked what we are fighting for I can reply in two sentences.

“In the first place to fulfil a solemn International obligation—an obligation which, if it had been entered into between private persons in the ordinary concerns of life would have been regarded as an obligation not only of law, but of honour, which no self-respecting man could possibly have repudiated.

“I say, secondly, we are fighting to vindicate the principle which, in these days when material force sometimes seems to be the dominant influence and factor in the development of mankind, we are fighting to vindicate the principle that small nationalities are not to be crushed in defiance of International good faith, by the arbitrary will of a strong and over-mastering Power.

“I do not believe any nation ever entered into a great controversy—and this is one of the greatest history will ever know—with a clearer conscience and stronger conviction that it is fighting, not for aggression, not for the maintenance even of its own selfish interest, but in defence of principles, the maintenance of which is vital to the civilisation of the world, and with the full conviction, not only of the wisdom and justice, but of the obligations which lay upon us to challenge this great issue.”—The Prime Minister, House of Commons, August 6th, 1914.

THE GREAT DECISION.

*“Here and here did England help me,
How can I help England?—say.”*

Your King and Country Need You!

TERMS OF SERVICE.

CONDITIONS.

If you wish to join for the duration of the war you must be medically fit, and satisfy the following conditions:—

Height ...	5 ft. 3 ins. and upwards.
Chest ...	At least 34 ins.
Age ...	New Recruits, 19 to 35. Ex-Soldiers up to 45. Certain selected N.C.O.'s up to 50.

CHOICE OF SERVICE.

You can apply for any particular branch of the Service (such as Royal Horse or Field Artillery, Foot Guards, Infantry, Royal Engineers, Royal Army Medical Corps or Army Service Corps) you wish to serve in, and if otherwise suitable will be allotted to that branch. If you wish to serve in the Infantry you will as far as possible be given the opportunity of joining the new Regular Battalion of your County Regiment which is being raised for the war.

DURATION OF SERVICE.

Men who enlist for the duration of the war will be able to claim their discharge with all convenient speed at the conclusion of the war.

PAY.

Private soldiers in the Infantry receive 6s. 8½d. a week clear of all expenses. In other branches of the Service the pay is higher.

Pay is also naturally higher for those who become non-commissioned officers or do special duties. For terms, consult the nearest Recruiting Officer, whose address you can ascertain at any Post Office or Labour Exchange.

SEPARATION ALLOWANCE.

Married men who join for the duration of the war are entitled, from the day of their attestation, to Separation Allowance for their wives and children over and above their pay.

The Government have decided for the period of the War to adopt the following scale, based on a minimum, inclusive of compulsory allotment, of 12s. 6d. a week, with consequential increases:—

Wife only, 12s. 6d.

Wife with one child, 15s.

Wife with two children, 17s. 6d.

Wife with three children, £1.

Wife with four children, £1 4s.

These allowances will be payable weekly, through the post offices, as from October 1st, 1914.

All married soldiers who are eligible for Separation Allowance are, when serving abroad, obliged to allot at least 3s. 6d. a week out of their pay to their wives, and more if they have children, and can, of course, allot still more.

INSURANCE.

A deduction of 1½d. a week will be made from the soldier's pay for insurance. This will keep him in full insurance with his Approved Society till he returns to Civil life, and meanwhile men enlisting need not be afraid that their wives will not get the full maternity benefit that may be due to them.

Men disabled on service will be entitled on discharge to benefits under the Insurance Act in addition to the pension given by the War Office for partial or total disablement.

PENSIONS.

The question of Pensions is now being fully considered by the Government, but at present non-commissioned officers and men of the Regular Forces who are discharged as unfit for further service on account of wounds, injuries, or disease due to war service, may be granted pensions at following daily rates:—

If partially incapable of earning a livelihood:—

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Sergeants and higher ranks ...	1	0	to	3 0
Corporals ...	0	9	to	2 0
Privates ...	0	6	to	1 6

If totally incapable of earning a livelihood:—

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Sergeants and higher ranks ...	2	6	to	3 6
Corporals ...	2	0	to	3 0
Privates ...	1	6	to	2 6

The widow and legitimate children of any man whose death is due to the war may be granted pensions at the following weekly rates:—

	Widows.		Each child.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
Quartermaster-sergeant, etc.	10	0	...	2 0
Colour-sergeant, etc.	9	0	...	2 0
Sergeant, etc....	7	6	...	2 0
Corporal, etc....	6	0	...	1 6
Private, etc....	5	0	...	1 6

Double the rates are given in the case of motherless children.

HOW TO JOIN.

Men wishing to join should apply in person at any Military Barrack or at any Recruiting Office; the address of the latter can be obtained from Post Offices or Labour Exchanges.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

Principal London Recruiting Stations.

Headquarters: Great Scotland Yard, S.W.

City: 32, St. Paul's Churchyard, E.C.

City: Finsbury Barracks, City Road, E.C.

Hampstead: Town Hall, Belsize Park, N.W.

Kensington: Adam and Eve Court, entrance High Street.

Lambeth: Town Hall.

Lewisham: Catford Labour Exchange, Lewisham High St.

Poplar: 66, Tredegar Road, Bow, E.

Shoreditch: Town Hall.

Southwark: Town Hall.

Stratford: 22, Grove Crescent Road, E.

Walthamstow: Town Hall.

Wandsworth: Town Hall.

Westminster: Caxton Hall.

Westminster: Schools, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.

Woolwich: 6, Francis Street.

City Inquiry Offices, City of London Regiment (New Army):
6, Throgmorton Street, E.C., and 16, Great St.
Helens, E.C.

The address of the nearest Recruiting Station, throughout London and the country, may be obtained at any Post Office or Labour Exchange. The above list, which only gives the principal stations, is by no means complete for London, and in the country stations exist in all large villages and towns.

A Final Word.

“Although we have good grounds for quiet confidence, it is only right that we should remind ourselves that the struggle is bound to be a long one, and that it behoves us strenuously to prosecute our labours in developing our armed forces to carry on and bring to a successful issue the mighty conflict in which we are engaged.”

LORD KITCHENER.

September 17th, 1914.

